

Dear Commissioners:

I urge you to reject Petition 04-160 submitted by the National Association of Broadcasters whose purpose is to prevent XM Satellite Radio from providing instant traffic and weather service to approximately 20 U.S. cities through dedicated stations which can be heard by anyone with subscription service to XM. While I am not an attorney I believe the dedicated stations/channels meet the FCC's criteria forbidding satellite radio from providing local content. The always on concept is an enormous service to subscribers who commute and itself is nearly worth the cost of the monthly subscription. I am told many truckers are subscribers and I cannot imagine the savings of time and gas costs to them to know what routes are to be avoided. With gasoline costs so high today, these truckers need all the help we can muster.

I believe the NAB has a more insidious goal than simply preventing satellite radio companies from providing local weather and traffic. It would be simple for them to improve their traffic and weather service but I suspect they will do anything to hamper the growth of the satellite radio industry because they are losing listeners. It's poor sportsmanship and undemocratic.

Sincerely,

Linda J. Hughes